

THIS LETTER WAS MAILED TO THE ATTACHED CORRESPONDENTS

PRO GAY PRIDE WEEK PROCLAMATION

*Checked off
log*

July 18, 1977

Mr. Sidney McLain
15715 Meridian Avenue North
Seattle, Washington 98155

Dear Mr. McLain:

Thank you for being concerned enough to share your thoughts with me regarding my declaration of Gay Pride Week. I sincerely appreciate your words of support on this most controversial issue. Most of the reactions I have received have been highly critical.

Those attacking my position have asked me to explain my support for the rights of the members of the gay community of our city. For me, it is a simple explanation -- human rights are absolute. Yet I fear the road toward equality for all our city's citizens will become more difficult in the coming months. I remain confident, however, that together we can achieve what is only right -- fair and equal treatment for all our city's citizens.

It has become clear to me in reading the many letters which were sent to my office on this issue that ignorance and fear are at the base of people's bigotry. I urge you to do all you can to educate and enlighten the rest of our community on this very important matter, for it will be only through this process that we can hope to erase the myths and stereotypes which have existed for far too long.

Again, thank you for writing, and best wishes.

Sincerely,

Wes Uhlman

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